



## **Supreme Court of Kentucky**

State Capitol, Room 231  
700 Capitol Avenue  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

**John D. Minton, Jr.**  
Chief Justice of Kentucky

Frankfort 502-564-4162  
Bowling Green 270-746-7867

Contact: Leigh Anne Hiatt, APR, Public Information Officer, Administrative Office of the Courts  
Phone 502-573-2350, Cell 859-619-7916, [lhiatt@kycourts.net](mailto:lhiatt@kycourts.net)

### **Garlan VanHook resigns as head of Kentucky's court facilities program**

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 25, 2009 -- Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. announced today that Garlan VanHook has resigned as executive officer of the Department of Facilities for the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts. VanHook, an architect, is leaving the court system to return to private practice with VanHook Architectural Services in Stanford, Ky. The resignation is effective Feb. 25, 2009.

"Helping craft the overhaul of Kentucky's court facilities program is a milestone in my career and a part of my life I will remember fondly," said VanHook. "I'm incredibly honored and grateful to have had the privilege to serve Kentucky during this unique time in the life of the court system."

VanHook headed the AOC Department of Facilities, which is responsible for overseeing construction, maintenance and operations for court facilities in all of Kentucky's 120 counties, leasing space for court-related programs, providing furnishings to court facilities and managing the Judicial Inventory Control System.

Under VanHook's leadership, the AOC attracted attention nationwide for the Facilities Management System implemented in 2000 to objectively set priorities for court facility needs in Kentucky. VanHook helped develop the FMS as an objective audit system to identify the greatest needs for new construction, renovation, expansion and adaptation of court facilities.

VanHook was instrumental in overseeing 70 new judicial centers that have been completed, authorized or begun during his tenure. He began employment with the AOC as an architect in 1998 and was promoted to his current position in 2000.

"Since the early days of the Commonwealth, Kentucky courthouses have held a special place as the center of our communities," said Chief Justice Minton. "Today thousands of Kentuckians have secure, efficient, high-tech buildings in which to carry out court business and seek access to justice. These new judicial centers have become a reality in large measure because of Garlan's passion and expertise. He is highly regarded by legislators, county judge-executives and county officials throughout the state."

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"We will benefit from this strong foundation as we enter a new phase of meeting Kentucky's needs for improved court facilities," he said.

As the administrative and fiscal agent for the Judicial Branch of state government, the AOC provides oversight and administration of court facilities in accordance with House Bill 734, which was passed by the 2000 General Assembly. The AOC also supports the activities of 4,000 court system employees, including the elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks.

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